



The Ground Plane

South Bay
Amateur
Radio
Association
ARRL Member Club
Since 1974



Volume 5 Edition 4

April, 2004

April 2004 VICE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings from the Vice-President. This month I'm standing in for SBARA President Al Rendon WT6K who is on vacation, as if retired people need vacations! Hi Hi!

The weather continues to warm us this month and things are in bloom. SBARA also continues to make changes to improve its meeting format, provide interesting workshops and generate a more social atmosphere.

We restructured our March meeting to start with a 30-minute window of socializing followed by a 15-minute business meeting, a break and a presentation. This format seems to have been well received and the board continues to look for an alternate meeting venue on a Friday evening that will allow more people to attend and not be a financial burden.

As a result of some recent brainstorming we are also exploring a workshop to assemble inexpensive half wave HT antennas and possibly a discone antenna based on a recent ARRL article. If you have a workshop idea that would have broad appeal let us know.

More of you have recently signed up for email reminders of our meeting's and for notification when the new newsletter is available on line. We continue to listen for feedback on the subscription procedure and encourage those of you with Internet access to join us. A lot of effort has been devoted recently to reducing the newsletter PDF size to make it a snap for dial-up users to download, and since only board members may post to the list it will be SPAM free.

Finally, this is the last month of the SBARA membership renewal drive. If a renewal form was included with this newsletter you are not renewed! Please take a moment to fill that form out and return it with your dues.

73,

Sam WS6S

SBARA VP

April Program Announcement

The National Traffic System

This month SBARA will welcome Pink Foster, KG6ILA, ARRL Section Traffic Manager, Santa Clara Valley section. She will show us the ins and outs of traffic handling in the 21st century. Come and see why the Nation Traffic System is still relevant in this age of the internet and computers, how messages are handled, what a message "format" is, NTS's role in disaster recovery, and hear about traffic nets in your area. Maybe you'll want to send some traffic to a friend or relative or deliver some traffic in the local area after this presentation to see how the system works.

SBARA Meets the 3rd Wednesday of every month at the Fremont Community Center at the intersection of Paseo Padre & Mission View Drive.

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SBARA Raffle Continues

We started small and have been increasing the number and value of raffle items with the hope of justifying larger items in the months to come. March continued the raffle and Bill Artelt WB9YVM won the Ten Tec TN1253 HF receiver kit (a \$69 value) as a first prize

The April meeting will feature a raffle for a Yaesu VX-2R HT (a \$130 value).

Click on this link to see more features:

[http://www.yaesu.com/indexVS.cfm
cmd=DisplayProducts&ProdCatID=111&ProdID=870&DivisionID=65&isArchived=0](http://www.yaesu.com/indexVS.cfm?cmd=DisplayProducts&ProdCatID=111&ProdID=870&DivisionID=65&isArchived=0)

Sam Severs WS6S—email to ws6s@arrl.net

SBARA Vice President

Name Badges

The name badges have arrived and will be available at this coming meeting April 21st.

If you wish to order a name badge see Jim Wood and fill out a Form (needed, so I get the call sign and name spelling correct). Jim Wood - Treasurer

Membership Profile — Kortnee Feriante - KG6HDS

Our current membership chairperson, Kortnee Feriante was born in Payson, Utah on August 2, 1966, and grew up in Kalispell, Montana. In July of 2001, she passed her Technician Class license on the same day as her husband, Adam (KG6HDR) upgraded to General and her 10 year old son, Joshua (KG6HDT) got his Technician license. Kortnee has 4 children, 2 of which are licensed operators and her 7 year-old daughter is currently studying to take the Technician class test. Kortnee earned a BS in Law in 1999. On the 3rd of this month, she passed the Morse Code test and upgraded to General. She currently has an ICOM IC-T 7H. She has enjoyed what amateur radio has done for her family and spending time with them on Field Day. Her immediate goals in amateur radio are getting on the air and becoming more proficient in Morse Code. Her interests include cycling (road bikes), playing the piano, golf, backpacking, camping, hunting, reading, taking long trips, and watching old movies.

ARRL Emergency Communications Course Registration

Registration opens Monday, April 12, 12:01 AM Eastern Daylight Time (0401 UTC), for the Level II Emergency Communications on-line course (EC-002). Registration remains open through the April 17-18 weekend or until all seats are filled--whichever occurs first. Class begins Tuesday, April 27. Thanks to our grant sponsors--the Corporation for National and Community Service and the United Technologies Corporation-- the \$45 registration fee paid upon enrollment will be reimbursed after successful completion of the course. During this registration period, approximately 60 seats are being offered to ARRL members on a first-come, first-served basis. To learn more, visit the ARRL Certification and Continuing Education (C-CE) <<http://www.arrl.org/cce/>> Web page and the C-CE Links found there. For more information, contact Emergency Communications Course Manager Dan Miller, K3UFG, dmiller@arrl.org, 860-594-0340.

BPL Handout Available From ARRL

ARRL has posted a two-page document <<http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/plc/BPL-leave-behind.pdf>> that discusses Broadband over Power Line (BPL) in lay terms. "Broadband over Power Line: Why Amateur Radio is Concerned about its Deployment" is available for reprinting and use as a handout when, for example, dealing with members of Congress, municipal officials, power utilities and the news media.

While emphasizing that hams do not oppose broadband services per se and tend to be "early adopters" of new technology, the information sheet outlines Amateur Radio's concern about BPL's potential to create interference. Other broadband delivery methods "do not pollute the radio spectrum as BPL does," the paper states.

It also defines BPL, outlines its current deployment status, discusses FCC regulations already in place and explains that BPL's interference potential is real, not just theoretical. Finally, it lists "Others at risk," including short-wave listeners, public safety agencies and federal government radio systems.



March Photo Album

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